NEWS
FirstUp! Celebration
Campus has been decorated with posters highlighting first-generation college community members. **page 3**

A&E
Fall Concert
Grace '26 offers a recap of Peach Pit's electrifying performance at the Annex this past weekend. **page 9**

SPORTS
World Cup
Collins '24 provides a hefty and thorough analysis on this year's World Cup in relation to the U.S. team. **pages 16-20**

The Spectator

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Volume LXIV
Number X

Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Common Ground hosts Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and Professor Nicolai Petro

by Catherine Vogt '24
STAFF WRITER

Common Ground hosted its second event centered around the ongoing war in Ukraine on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. in Bradford Auditorium. The panel featured Andrei Kozyrev, the first Minister of Foreign Affairs for Russia post-Soviet Union as well as Nicolai Petro, the Silvia-Chandley Professor of Peace Studies and Nonviolence and Professor of Political Science at the University of Rhode Island. The discussion between the two was moderated by the Hamilton College Henry Platt Bristol Professor of International Relations, Professor Alan Cafruny.

Petro was the first to speak, noting how the Russian invasion of Ukraine is Moscow's military effort to end Ukraine's existence as a state and reconstitute the Soviet Union.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BERKELEY CENTER FOR RELIGION PEACE AND WAR

Nicolai Petro is the Silvia-Chandley Professor of Peace Studies and Nonviolence (2017-2019) and Professor of Political Science at the University of Rhode Island. Petro also served as the US State Department's special assistant for policy on the Soviet Union under President George HW Bush.

He believes that Russia's and Ukraine's future is controlled by their own people and that in order to potentially end the war in the near future, the two countries need to actively choose to build a peaceful relationship.

Additionally, the University of Rhode Island scholar declared that direct North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) military action will not end the war, but NATO can supply the Ukrainian military with weapons. Additionally, Western nations can continue to employ sanctions in hopes of destroying the Russian economy; however, Petro referenced three decades worth of research that has concluded that sanctions with vague objectives applied over long periods of time allow the targets to adjust. As such, sanctions have never succeeded in changing the policies of other nations—not even once. Moreover, Russia is on track to end this war with a budget surplus, highlighting the failure of the sanctions. Petro summed up his argument, proclaiming that this war is not just about Ukraine, but it is about a larger crusade as Moscow is fighting against liberal democracy, freedom and progress.

Conversely, the former Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs believes that the sole reason for the war in Ukraine is that Russia hates examples of prosperous, free democracies in the West. Russia is fearful that Ukraine will further democratize, becoming closer with Russia's enemies: NATO and the West. The Russian government particularly hates NATO since the organization was created to protect the world from Former Premier of the Soviet Union Joseph Stalin and Soviet Union aggression. Russia has made several attempts to join NATO, but has failed to meet the criteria, which include introducing democracy and a free market economy in the country.

Kozyrev recognized that Russian President Vladimir Putin did not come out of nowhere. Former Russian President Boris Yeltsin appointed Putin as the chief of Presidential Staff in 1997 and the former KGB foreign intelligence officer has stayed in power ever since. In fact, Kozyrev holds that Putin has never been democratically elected to his roles. As he has centralized power in the Kremlin, Putin has cracked down on media-owning oligarchs in order to maintain full control over the press and media in Russia.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROFESSOR SHARON RIVERA

Andrei Kozyrev served as the first Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Russian Federation from 1990 to 1996 under Boris Yeltsin. He developed Russian foreign policy immediately after the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Kozyrev reflected on growing up in the Soviet Union when there was no free media. Like Kozyrev, Putin also grew up in the USSR and learned from the Soviet environment that when the state possesses total power, the media becomes propaganda and the population becomes indoctrinated as the government-owned media is the only form of information to which the people are exposed.

Though there were some areas of agreement, by the end of the event, Petro and Kozyrev continued to disagree about the role of NATO in the War.

Ida Dominijanni speaks on new Italian PM

by Gregoire Winston '26
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, Nov. 11, the Italian, German, Russian and Arabic Studies Departments came together in collaboration with the Government Department to host Italian philosopher and political theorist Ida Dominijanni. As a prominent author and journalist, publishing her newest book "Il Trucco. Sessualità e biopolitica nella fine di Berlusconi," Dominijanni has passed down her rich historical perceptions to the students at Roma Tre University, the Universities of Siena and Verona and Cornell University. Titled "The March on Rome: Italian Politics between Mussolini's Ghost and Meloni's Rise," this guest lecture allowed students from a variety of departments to gather insightful first-hand geopolitical experience from the comfort of Red Pit (KJ 127).

The hour and a half lecture was split into two sections: the first was reserved for Dominijanni to express her thoughts regarding the recent election of far-right Italian candidate Giorgia Meloni, while the second was geared toward a Q&A style discussion.

During the first 45 minutes of the talk, Dominijanni traced Italian politics back to the roots of the country's political parties and the rise of Mussolini, more than often brought up as a mirror image of Meloni's political perspectives. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, corruption and judicial trials brought a significant decline to Italy's most powerful parties of the time: the Democrazia Cristiana (DC), the Partito Socialista Italiano (PSI) and Partito Comunista Italiano (PCI). The rapid collapse of socially-democratic ideology paved the way for the rise of conservative oriented parties, including Berlusconi's Forza Italia, the Lega Nord and Alleanza Nazionale. From that point on, conservatism held a stronghold in Italian minds, placing Italian nationalism and self-centered ideals at the forefront of their priorities.

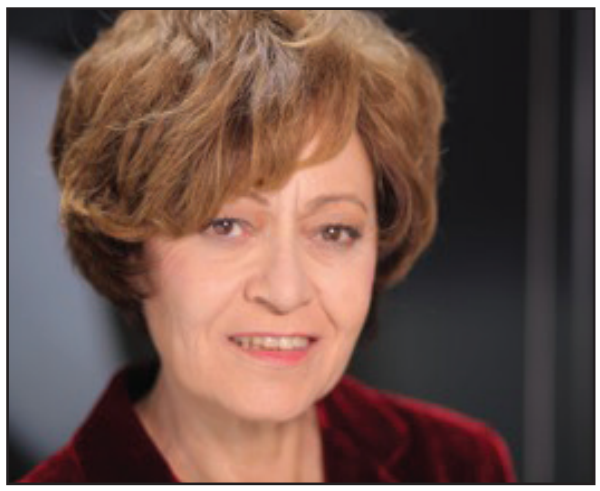

PHOTO COURTESY OF GENOA SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

Journalist and prominent author Ida Dominijanni spoke on Italian politics and new Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni on Friday.

Dominijanni repeatedly used Meloni's autobiography "Io Sono Giorgia" as a reference for her commentary, combined with an in depth dive into Italy's new leader's past. Born in 1977, at the height of the "Long Sixty-Eight" social conflict featuring the Red Brigades terrorist attacks on then president Aldo Moro, Meloni often draws from this time period in her speeches. Yet, due to her young age at the time, the majority of her understanding was an indirect memory. Her mother, a "sympathizer of neo-fascist movements," laid the base for the political rhetoric we associate with her to this day, as commented Dominijanni, while her father, a leftist partisan, abandoned the family early on. Years later as a young adult, Meloni began her career under the wing of Berlusconi, who reformed the Alleanza Nazionale into a traditional center-right party. Moreover, both Democratic and Conservative parties circled around the question of feminism and gendered relations. The 1990's were a time of great ideological reflection in regards to women: Dominijanni states that although the Democratic parties emphasized pink quotas and a push for a change to conventional patriarchal values, the right has made this dream a reality. In her autobiography, Meloni stated that "on the left they talk a lot about equality, but it is the right that has brought more women on top." In this vein, Meloni took direct inspiration from her political orientation's feminine success to forge a rise to power rarely seen throughout history.

Early 21st century drama within Berlusconi and other right-wing figures led to a progressive decline of the party. Understanding the future of her party at stake, Meloni was tasked to redirect a majority of right-wing Italians towards a more stable party, free from corruption and mediatized scandals. In this, Meloni began laying cornerstone values of her rhetoric she still holds to heart today. Glorification of national sentiment, strong Christian values, no to Islamist violence, no to mass immigration and no to the LGBTQ lobby, among many other principles.

"I found the way [Dominijanni] described Italian politics eye-opening to say the least. The polarization she described in Italy was incredible to relate to from an American perspective, though it might have been a little hard for me to follow her advanced Italian!" declared Daniel Gerard '26.

In her concluding remarks, Dominijanni clarified that although it might be inferred that Italy has drastically shifted to a far-right governance, in actuality, Italy has barely transitioned from "the center-right towards the far-right." While it may very much look like a "replica of historical fascism," political parties are known to shapeshift, changing policies and identities from what was commonplace decades back. Today, Meloni's position of power as Italian Prime Minister could go two ways: she could either succumb to economic and social pressures having currently plagued her country for years, or mount her pundits' criticism and stabilize her hold on Italy's political spectrum in the coming months. Regardless, it is critical to note that "Italy could again become the political laboratory of a reactionary experiment with devastating effects for the old continent and the West as a whole," mentions Dominijanni. Only history will tell whether a theater of chaos similar to that of Mussolini's regime will end up repeating itself.

PHOTO COURTESY OFREUTERS

Far-right politician Giorgia Meloni recently became Italy's new Prime Minister.

FirstUp! celebrates first-generation students

by Nikki Greenberg '25
NEWS EDITOR

As students walked to their classes and residence halls last week, their paths were lined with posters depicting the faces of first-generation students, faculty and staff here at Hamilton. The posters were part of an annual campaign, FirstUp!, that aims to honor those individuals who were the first in their families to attend college

The FirstUp! campaign was a week filled with events and activities to raise awareness about the first-generation college experience. The programs included opportunities for first-generation students to get FirstUp! merchandise, a life skills event, a FirstUp! celebration, an activity planned by Hamilton's Questbridge Scholars Network and a reception at the Wellin Museum. At the Wellin, attendees were able to tour the Dialogues Across Disciplines exhibit which showcases first-generation artists.

For first-generation students at Hamilton, FirstUp! is a larger program that provides support throughout the college experience. There is a network of faculty and staff members who can recount their first-generation experiences, and "these staff members—along with faculty and fellow students—will help to ensure that you don't face challenges alone," as described on the FirstUp! website. The First-Up! web page is filled with familiar faces who were the first in their families to attend college and links to easily contact them with questions or concerns. Additionally, the initiative maintains a comprehensive list of resources to support students in the areas of academics, health & wellness, housing information, dining services, our neighborhood, transportation, tuition & financial aid and career planning.

The initiative aims to provide first-generation students with the mentors, leaders, advisors and resources that will help ease the transition to college. According to the First-Up! homepage, Ashley Garcia '22 connected to Professor Matthew Grace through the First-Up! network. Garcia remarked, "Coming from a low-income background and identifying as a first-generation student, I never imagined I'd be conducting research, let alone presenting at a national conference. Professor Matthew Grace was the first person to really believe I could tackle such a sphere, and it was his guidance, and support from the POSSE community, that enabled me to believe in myself as well."

PHOTO BY DEANNA DURBEN '25

Posters along Martin's Way showed off first generation students, faculty, and staff members.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to respect discretion, *The Spectator* and Campus Safety have not disclosed the idenities of the students involved in these reports.

Thursday, November 10

9:09 P.M. Animal Complaint — Wertimer House

11:26 P.M. Noise Complaint — Babbitt Residence Hall

Friday, November 11

10:00 P.M. Trouble Alarm — Root Residence Hall

Saturday, November 12

3:05 A.M. Fire Alarm — Sage Ice Rink

7:09 A.M. Fire Alarm — Bristol Campus Center

8:14 A.M. Trouble Alarm — Sage Ice Rink

12:50 P.M. Animal Complaint — On Campus Other Location

1:42 P.M. Medical Emergency — Off Campus Location

5:58 P.M. Trouble Alarm — Babbitt Residence Hall

7:05 P.M. Medical Emergency — Wallace Johnson Hall

11:44 P.M. Noise Complaint — Milbank Residence Hall

Sunday, November 13

1:00 A.M. Medical Emergency — Dunham Residence Hall

2:03 A.M. Medical Emergency — Days-Massolo Center

5:10 P.M. Assist — Beinecke Village

Monday, November 14

9:23 A.M. Fire Alarm — Athletic Center

12:35 P.M. Trouble Alarm — Babbitt Residence Hall

9:22 P.M. Medical Emergency — Babbitt Residence Hall

11:26 P.M. Fire Alarm — Rogers Estate

Tuesday, November 15

2:43 A.M. Trouble Alarm — Dunham Residence Hall

1:08 P.M. Medical Emergency — Mcintosh Residence Hall

1:22 P.M. Concern For Welfare — Rogers Estate

6:25 P.M. Trouble Alarm — 95 College Hill Road

EDITORIAL

November 17, 2022

Dear Hamilton Community,

We hope all of you have a safe and peaceful Thanksgiving break! It seems like everyone on campus is in need of one, including ourselves here at *The Spec*. Nevertheless, we have a couple of exciting announcements for when we return from break. First, we are planning on unveiling our own *Spectator* Podcast (to be named)! Secondly, we are planning on publishing another investigative piece in our last issue of the semester. Our final issue, which is just the next one after this issue (Nov. 17), should be another lengthier issue. In the meantime, enjoy your breaks and get some much needed rest.

Catch our weekly issues of *The Spec* all around campus such as in popular spots like Kirner-Johnson (KJ), Christian Johnson (CJ), Sadove Student Center and Taylor Science Center (SCCT), as well as where you eat or lounge in Commons, McEwen, Diner and FoJo!

The Spectator

Corrections & Amplifications

The photograph shown in last week's Measure for Measure article by Grace '26 was from last year's mainstage "10/12," not "Measure for Measure." The photograph will be updated on our website at spec.hamilton.edu.

Readers can alert *The Spectator* to any errors in articles by emailing spec@hamilton.edu.

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Celebrating 156 years,
we *were first published as* The Hamilton Campus *in 1866.*

The Spectator

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

November 17, 2022

Letter to the Editor: Felix Tager

by Felix Tager '23
LETTER TO THE EDITOR 11/17

I want to start by thanking *the Spectator* for taking the time to cover the Assembly in November 3rd edition. I hope that this is a sign that *the Spectator* will cover the work done by this body to create real, effective change for students on campus, like our efforts to have Hamilton College to publicly commit to divesting from fossil fuels or things from last semester like our massive revamp of the Student Organization and Student Activities Funding Codes. I want to emphasize that I have no ill will towards the authors of the article and am extremely grateful for the time, dedication, and effort put into this piece. Ele and Stella are incredible people who have done great things for the Hamilton community and I want to make sure that by submitting this letter I, in no way, want to delegitimize that.

I just want to clarify a few things from the latest article that were either inaccurate or not the complete truth. Firstly, regarding past administrations, I wanted to clarify something I misspoke on. Santomauro-Stenzel and Ruiz co-wrote the agendas. However, Santomauro-Stenzel did chair meetings - something I presume was deemed permissible by the parliamentarian Wriley Nelson at the time.

Secondly, I want to address the leaking of the impeachment document. It is extremely important to note that all parties involved in the first hearing agreed to a confidentiality agreement in which all documents would not be shared or disclosed. The person who requested for us to do something like this for fear of the document being leaked was the former vice president – who then leaked the document to you. As of writing this, no other individual involved in the initial impeachment has shared the impeachment document or violated this agreement other than the former vice president.

Thirdly, I want to clarify that my email to the class of 2023 was sent prior to the email sent by the full Assembly. My email was not intended as a follow-up but rather to reassure members of the Senior Class that things would be alright and to recognize that drama is not the focus of the Assembly's work.

Fourth, I want to emphasize that the care packages were certainly a source of frustration, but, to my knowledge, they were not the main reason for impeachment. In my interpretation, I saw this as a way for the parties requesting impeachment to demonstrate that the former vice president would take on tasks and then not complete them and that these incidents hindered the work of the Assembly. It is important to note that while we were concerned about liability regarding food, we also said that, if we were able to balance the costs, we would try to do it. The issues beyond health risks were primarily (and as I stated in the interview) how much food costs and how little money we had to spend per person. We allocated $10,000 to care packages which at a time of over-enrollment came to a little over $5 per student. Food costs are significantly higher than other items and in addition to keeping people safe from potential cross-contamination if they have allergies, it is about making sure we were able to give students the most we could possibly give them for $5. Regarding deadlines, the former vice president had months—not less than a week — left to buy Capri Suns. This was one of the first items suggested and we [Emily and I] had told the former vice president we would absolutely do it if we could get estimates on the cost if we bought in bulk from Costco, which was his suggestion. Emily also offered to help get transportation and a credit/membership card for the purchase. None of this was done to my knowledge. This comes after President Wippman generously offered to fund custom printed boxes for care packages—a task the former vice president took on but was done after it was too late to order them. When it got too late, Emily went ahead and ordered boxes, which the former vice president then got angry with them for.

Finally, regarding the reasons for impeachment, I want to clarify regarding absences, defamation, COVID violations, and failure of duties. While it is stated that I did not express a desire to dismiss other members of the Assembly for absences, I directly noted that no other members still on the Assembly, to my knowledge, had three unexcused absences. Joshua Zeledon, as of the meeting of which he did not attend and resigned during, was at three unexcused absences and would be dismissed and Evelyn Molina was at two. Mason also has confirmed that he said that this must be investigated since students may have personal reasons for not attending. Constitutionally, three unexcused absences is criteria for removal; however, there are personal situations that may arise and should be taken into consideration. In this case, the number of unexcused absences was excessive with no clear personal reasoning given.

Furthermore, it is rather surprising to me that the issue of defamation was simply skimmed past. This is something that harmed the health of multiple members of the Assembly and Hamilton community, as well as the operation of the Assembly. The other party admitted to defaming and spreading malicious rumors about multiple members of the Assembly, including the President.

While violations of code of conduct, in this case the COVID code of conduct, do not impact someone's ability to be in office, jeopardizing the health of multiple members of the central council is something that is not okay. It is also important to note that while as Marvin stated the college did not rule him as being responsible, that does not discount the numerous separate witnesses who verified that he had violated quarantine and also had lied about it at certain points.

Lastly, regarding the failure to complete duties, it is important to note that the constitution cites the responsibility for chairing to be the President's. However, in past administrations including the Ruiz and Santomauro-Stenzel administrations, the vice president chaired. This was seen as constitutional based upon precedent at the time. Given that in a discussion the president and former vice president (Lopez) agreed to share chairing responsibilities and in some instances have one chair while the other worked on managing agenda items, I believe it is important to acknowledge how important precedent was in this decision. This was also explicitly mentioned as a precedent role in the elections document for the election that Lopez ran for VP in. Additionally, it is important to note that the parliamentarian is responsible for making rulings in situations like these. However, unlike past parliamentarians, rulings by former Parliamentarian Sheehan were not on record. In the past, rulings would be published on the Student Assembly Slack or via email to the Central Council listserv. I strongly believe that if many of these issues of constitutionality were ruled in a more formal manner, they would have been adhered to in a greater capacity.

I want to reiterate that I am extremely grateful for *The Spectator* giving me and others the opportunity to share our stories and perspectives and continuing to uphold one of the most important parts of our student body - the student paper. I appreciate this and hope you have a great rest of your week.

Hamilton appoints new Dean of Admissions

by Billy Marin '25
FEATURES EDITOR

On Nov. 4, Hamilton College announced that John McLaughlin will join the College as Dean of Admission and Associate Vice President beginning Jan. 3, replacing former Dean Peaches Valdes, who left to join Wellesley in August.

McLaughlin is currently Vice Dean and Director of Admissions at the University of Pennsylvania, where he has worked for the past eight years. “I’m excited by the opportunity Hamilton presents, it’s a place where I can continue to learn from some really bright colleagues and faculty. I think I bring a fresh perspective here, and I look forward to bringing those and helping bring the office forward. I’m particularly interested in access for prospective students,” said McLaughlin.

Vice President for Enrollment Monica Inzer described McLaughlin's expertise in handling staff, a strength in data science and his commitment to inclusive admissions practices as key reasons for his appointment. She also added that she had known McLaughlin professionally for years. “John (McLaughlin) and I were on a panel together several years ago and I thought, ‘this guy is the future of admissions'...he cares a lot,” Inzer said.

According to Inzer, McLaughlin’s excitement and interest in the Hamilton community was a selling point in their search for a new Dean of Admissions. McLaughlin expressed that Hamilton’s character was attractive for him and his family, stating that it “is an institutional exponent of the liberal arts. I’m drawn to the vibrancy of community and the curiosity in conversations that I saw when I visited here.” McLaughlin described the closeness of community he felt when he vistied the Hill, saying, “the quality of our experience as students and as educators is so dependent upon the connections we are able to establish with one another as people." He found that the connections and relationships at Hamilton are strong, which he is excited to continue to explore and develop.

McLaughlin explained that his first time on a college campus was helping his brother, a Hamilton alum, move into North Hall. “I remember the vibrancy and excitement in the air. Hamilton remains my reference point for what an exceptional liberal arts college should be.”

Commitment to accessibility in the admissions process was a factor McLaughlin cited as key to his decision to come tothe Hill. “One of the things that really draws me to Hamilton is how forward thinking the admissions office has been in terms of accessibility, affordability, and financial aid,” McLaughlin said. He went on to describe the work he saw in the College’s admissions process, as the "forefront of the field in terms of accessibility, with strategic partnerships, for example with Questbridge, and with generous need-based financial aid." He believes that the admissions office is committed to promoting accesibility and affordability to create more diverses classes.

Inzer and McLaughlin both acknowledged the hard work of the rest of the admissions staff, especially in the months Hamilton has not had a Dean of Admissions. “I’m really proud of this admission team and what we’ve done, and this team deserves a great leader," Inzer said. Hamilton and its admisions team is excited to welcome McLaughlin to campus.

WMGST class visits Seneca Falls

by Gregoire Winston '26
STAFF WRITER

Professor of Women and Gender Studies Mariah Stember recently took students from her Introduction to Women and Gender Studies class to visit Seneca Falls, the birthplace of America's Women Rights Movement. Located 89 miles west of Hamilton College campus, Stember’s students made the hour and a half jitney trip, leaving early Saturday morning and returning in the afternoon, in hopes of experiencing an opportunity to learn more about the foundational principles of this famed movement.

The Women’s Rights National Historical Park, declared a national park in 1980 but fully opened for tourists and locals alike in 1993, traces the origin of feminism back to its earlier roots. A series of quotes encapsulate the efforts men and women made in hopes of making the world a more just place. An elaborate tapestry reads “Seek truth for authority, not authority for truth,” Elizabeth Caddy Stanton’s motto, adorns a section of the entrance walls. Further towards the back, the National Park service put on display multiple sculptures depicting the “founding mothers” of American feminism. Among the 300 men and women who attended the first Women's Rights Convention, notable individuals included Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott and her husband James Mott, Martha Wright and world renown abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

COURESY OF GREOGIRE WINSTON '26

The museum draws parallels between 19th century American society and that of neighboring communities, and puts its progress in a modern-day context. The museum provides thought-provoking parallels between European-inspired American society and that of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, located on nearby Iroquois territory during the same time period. While the former stood as a patriarchal society in which the man’s last name is that which the child takes on, the latter functioned through matrilineal familial descent. Despite living in radically different worlds, Stanton, Wright and Mott saw that women’s rights were not a dream. In this, Haudenosaunee society effectively set a blueprint for the Women's Rights Movement, using their native American neighbors as direct inspirations for the changes they hoped to accomplish.

After touring the museum, Stember’s class explored the nearby Wesleyan Chapel, the building in which the signing of the Declaration of Sentiments took place. The document’s initial quote: “we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men and women are created equal,” stands the test of time in the push for gender equality to this day.

Professor Stember’s Women and Gender Studies 101 class trip provided valuable first hand context for those who attended and which can be taken back to College Hill Road. Visiting Seneca Falls shed light on the intersectionality of historical feminism and abolitionist perspectives, all the while drawing paralells between 1848 and today’s twenty-first century world.

The Bachelors

Anson Anderson ’26

PHOTO COURTSEY OF ANSON ANDERSON '26.

Hometown: Nashville, TN**.**
Home on Campus: Dunham **.**
Major: Neuro/Econ (Idk I’m a freshman).
Turn on: Good hygiene.
Turn off: Arrogance (disgusting)
What advertising slogan describes your life? Gatorade—is it in you?
Best pick up line used or used on someone else: I can't rizz.
Three things I can't live without: Neal Gupta, Jordans and Kid Cudi.
If you were any social space, what would you be? McEwen.
Where do you go when you want to be alone? The bathrooms at the top of Commons.
What's your patronus and why? Dog (because I am one).
If you could join one group on campus, what would you be? Women’s tennis team.
What's your type? Women who get along with my mom (she's lovely).
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? Step on the map (boring, I know).
What would you give a thumbs up? Sherpa jackets.
What would you give a thumbs down? Cuffed jeans.
Who would you say is your campus crush? Brian "Bwang" Wang, especially when walking to class.
Who would you say is your faculty crush? Marge from Commons.
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? Three different retainers.
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? Purposely not flushing.
If you were a food, which would you be and why? A breakfast sandwich made by Gianni Esposito.
Lights on or lights off? On. Mood lighting is the key.
Favorite campus study spot? Back corner of science center.
What is the meaning of life? "Game day, all love."

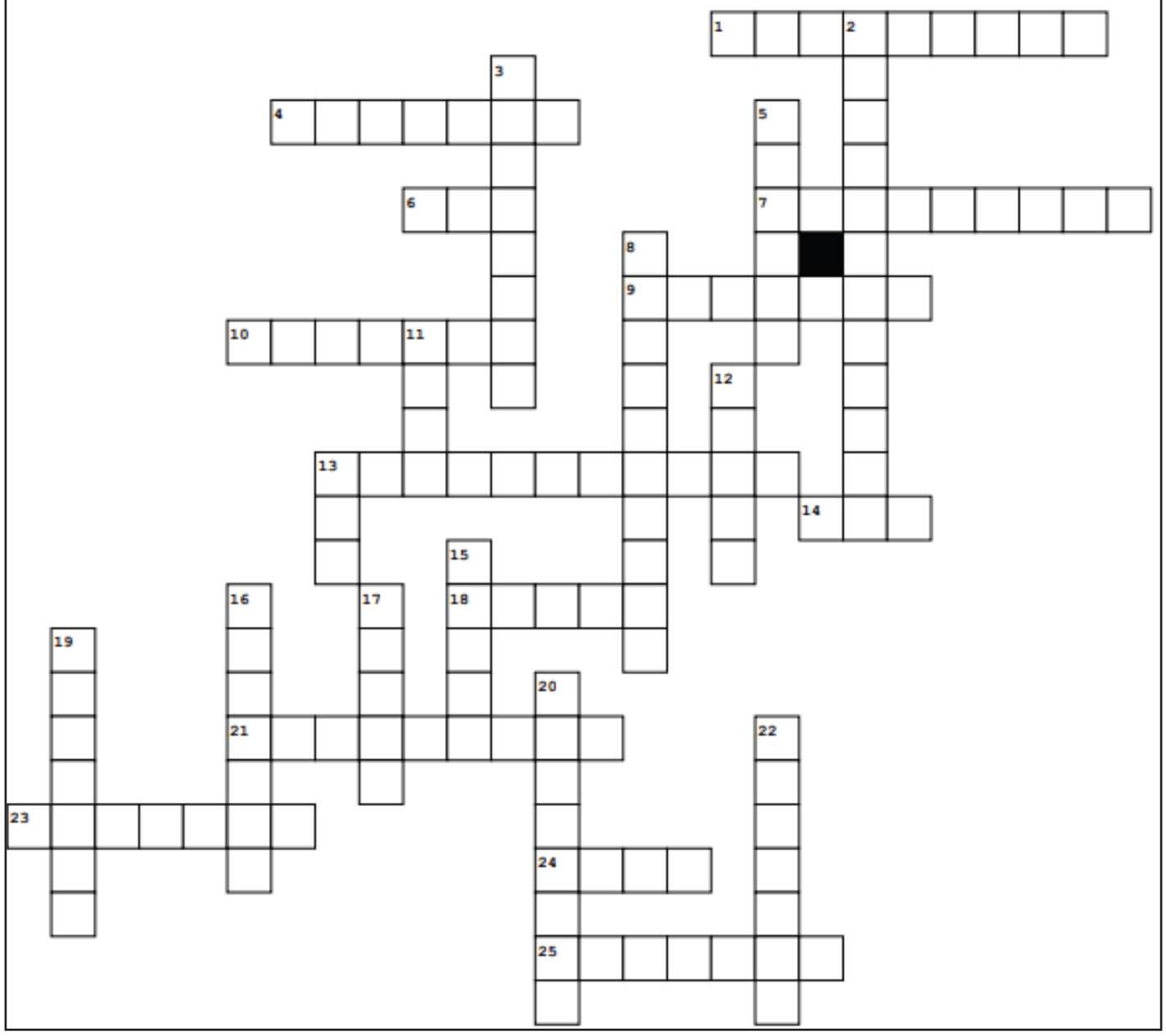
Interested in being featured in next week's "Bachelors"section? Email featspec@hamilton.edu!

Patrick Diccus ’25

PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICK DICCUS '25.

Hometown: Brooklyn, New York.
Home on Campus: Minor 300.
Major: Geoscience :0**.**
Turn on: Google calendar use.
Turn off: Doing the *New York Times* mini during class.
If you were a Hamilton Dorm, which dorm would you be? Saunders.
What advertising slogan describes your life? Mazda zoom zoom.
What TV genre best describes you? Bobs Burgers.
What’s the best pick-up line you’ve ever used/had used on you? Do you listen to Bladee?
What are three things you cannot live without? Igneous, Metamorphic, and Sedimentary.
Where do you go when you want to be alone? Firehouse during the day.
What’s your Patronus and why? Luna Lovegood was my first celebrity crush.
If you could join one group on campus what would it be? Bon appetit dining company.
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? I would eat an entire pizza pie while in the line at Commons.
What would you give a thumbs up? Friendly conversations with strangers.
Thumbs down? Greenwashing.
Who is your campus crush? Women.
Faculty crush? Monica at McEwen, she’s fun to talk to.
What is the weirdest thing in your room? My fossils.
Lights on or off? Flashing Rgbs.
Favorite on campus study spot? KTSA.
What is the meaning of life? To balance happiness and meaningful achievement.
If you were the love child of any two musicians, who would they be? Alex Weremchuk and Saucegod.
What’s your type? Instagram micro-celebrities.
What’s the last lie you told? Love you too, Dad!
What is the first thing you thought of this morning? My skylanders.

Gone for Thanksgiving!



Across

1. The Indigenous tribe the Pilgrims interacted with.

4. The president who made Thanksgiving a national holiday.

6. Benjamin Franklin's nickname for turkeys.

7. The most hated sauce on the Thanksgiving table in America.

9. The month that Canada celebrates their Thanksgiving.

10. The company that created TV dinners as a result of leftover turkey after Thanksgiving.

13. The Christmas song that was originally written to be sung on Thanksgiving.

14. The most popular meat alternative to turkey on Thanksgiving.

18. America's favorite type of pie.

21. The state that produces the most amount turkeys each year.

23. The president wh Thanksgiving an official holiday.

24. The number of women at the first Thanksgiving celebration.

25. The island in Australia that celebrates Thanksgiving.

Down

2. The city with the oldest Thanksgiving Day Parade.

3. Black Friday is the biggest day of the year for this trade profession.

5. The Thanksgiving gift that President Calvin Coolidge received in 1926.

8. The town that postponed Thanksgiving for a week because they couldn't make pumpkin pies.

11. The unlikely animal on the original menu on the first Thanksgiving in 1621.

12. The team of the mafia of upstate New York.

13. First president to pardon a turkey.

15. The department store brand that organizes the New York City Thanksgiving Parade.

16. Instead of balloons, the first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade had this.

17. The professional football team that has played almost every Thanksgiving since 1934.

19. This beloved children's television character's costume is made with turkey feathers.

20. The breaded side that does has a misleading name.

22. The city of the first Turkey Trot.

November 17, 2022

Annual fall concert success: Peach Pit

by Aderyn Grace '26
STAFF WRITER

The annual fall concert commenced last Friday, Nov. 11, in the Annex once CAB organizers finally opened doors to students at 7:30 p.m. Following weeks of anticipation, CAB announced that the fall concert would be opened by Annie DiRusso and headlined by indie pop band Peach Pit. Following an immediate scramble for tickets the days and week prior, students waited in a line stretching outside Howard Diner until doors opened at 7:30 p.m. Greeted with red wristbands and a complimentary merch table with "Peach Pit" embossed pins and tote bags, students migrated toward the annex to witness the upcoming performances.

The show opened with indie rock musician Annie DiRusso and her band, entering the stage wearing Hamilton sweatshirts and jumping into guitar riffs to begin the show. After beginning with a heavy rock number and shedding the sweatshirts to reveal matching black and white tunics, DiRusso greeted students and introduced her band. She elaborated on her background in music being influenced by her childhood, saying she was born in New York City but raised in Nashville, Tennessee, exposed to the differing styles of urban and country rock. DiRusso also added that these influences culminated in her college years when she began to pursue music seriously, and went on to introduce her next song as being inspired by the Beatles poster in her college dorm room. The set continued with songs about DiRusso's college years, her late dog and past relationships that echoed a touching yet punk attitude so often associated with those years in young people's lives. All were strung together with a solidly rock musical style, punctuated often by the insistent drumming and colorful lights. DiRusso amped up the crowd with her evident enthusiasm about being able to play for students, dropping in anecdotes about her own college days and connections to the College through social media. She closed out her opening set with her guitarists playing their instruments behind their head to which the crowd wholly cheered their approval of.

After an opening from Annie DiRusso, headliners Peach Pit burst onto the stage with a full force entry, violently playing their instruments and illuminated by changing lights to capture the attention of the crowd. The opening song verged on the edge of rock and metal with frontman Neil Smith crowd surfing at its apex into the audience. After returning to the stage and finishing the song, Smith greeted the crowd and requested that everyone drink water so they don't faint, sarcastically emphasizing that he will make fun of audience members if they do. Smith then introduced the band: guitarist Chris Vanderkooy, bassist Peter Wilson and drummer Mike Pascuzzi, and continued their set with hit single "Alrighty Aphrodite." The band's technical team greatly contributed to the atmosphere of the show, designing colorful combinations of mood lighting to match the energy that their songs stirred up in the audience, shifting in between hard rock anthems to more poppy and groovy ballads, a very noticeably impressive element of their stage show. At one point, guitarist Chris Vanderkooy brought out a sleek multi-neck guitar that took center stage for a time, showcasing the band's musical skill and strong stage presence. Another member also brought out a violin later into the show during one of the slower songs that added a surprisingly folky touch to the concert that was greatly welcomed by the audience.

Peach Pit concluded their set, peppered often with witty remarks from Smith, with a number that featured the crooning guitar and upbeat attitude that the band is so well known for, and in line with their Canadian homeland in Vancouver. Before ending with one last encore, Peach Pit truly displayed their Canadian-nice tendencies by bringing cases of water to the front sides of the audience and checking in with the group as a whole. Finishing with an epically loud and grandly rock encore, Peach Pit offered their most sincere thanks for the opportunity to play the fall concert. If the audience reactions were any indication, CAB organizers delivered a stupendously successful fall concert that students will look forward to down the line.

PHOTO BY DISCOTECH

The band Peach Pit performed on campus in the Annex to a lively crowd.

November 17, 2022

The YouTube to musician pipeline

by Max Bratter '25
A&E EDITOR

PHOTO BY MARCA

Jake Paul used his YouTube channel's success to accelerate his music and boxing careers.

YouTubers were once associated with a new type of fame. Accounts such as Smosh, PewDiePie and Mr. Beast have all represented different eras of the platform that continuously built upon each other to dispel this increasingly invalid notion. YouTube distinguished itself from typical media, such as cable television, by establishing itself as an outlet for absolute creative freedom, an avenue of imagination that was excluded from the typical financial and regulatory barriers that often water down professional networks' products. The lack of buffering from conception to release for certain public figures made YouTube seem much more enticing, particularly for musicians who grew tired of the fiscal requirements of acquiring placements on radio stations or on a channel like MTV. Professional artists began to pop up on YouTube, where dominant acts such as Taylor Swift and Eminem had their massive audiences transfer some of their attention. Music videos often act as simply an extension to a purely auditory experience for the sake of squeezing more dollars out of one's popularity, but what if YouTubers could inversely apply this strategy for a similar type of success?

While parody accounts that exploited the vapidness of mainstream music videos have long been a staple of YouTube, this was merely a precursor to the musical renaissance that evolved from topics that strictly originated from the platform. It is a difficult feat to attract fans of a specific type of content to something as subjectively challenging as music, but many YouTubers discovered that they could create pseudo-narratives to appeal to viewers that saw their music as drama revolving around their favorite creators. RiceGum was arguably the catalyst for this phenomenon; his channel was once a battleground for poorly-written, but incredibly provocative diss tracks on random creators that he was not fond of. YouTubers realized that stirring up conflict through music was an effective approach for drawing general YouTube consumers into their world. Jake Paul and his now-disbanded Team 10 conglomerate released a song titled "It's Everyday Bro" with an accompanying music video that now sits at 293 million views. Those are not rookie numbers; they are stats that defy the quality of the music and Paul's clout itself. With lyrics like, "England is my city," and, "Lemme educate ya' / And I ain't talking book," it's clear that the allure of the track came from its sporadic verbal attacks on another YouTuber, Paul's ex-girlfriend Alissa Violet. This resulted in a prolonged feud that involved Paul's brother, Logan, as well as a rebuttal from RiceGum and Violet titled "It's Every Night Sis" (clever, right?) that amassed 196 million views. Both RiceGum and Jake Paul used the success of their quarrel to accelerate their non-music YouTube careers, and as a boon for their continued musical endeavors.

It's difficult to maintain musical relevance after dedicating so much of one's career to topical themes such as disputes with adversaries, but Quadeca proved to be an outlier in this regard. Although the rapper partook in his own fair share of fairweather YouTube beef, it was evident that the creator had aspirations that exceeded much of his platform's peers. Quadeca's first encounters with widespread notoriety were a product of the aforementioned parody genre of YouTuber music. Quadeca would release content satirizing and imitating popular styles of rap—a series of videos that attracted millions of viewers. After committing much of his subject matter to viral themes, Quadeca began to sonically branch out and create full-length albums that demonstrated a true passion for his craft. Quadeca's latest album, *I Didn't Mean To Haunt You* (2022), showcases a refined musical maturity that significantly surpasses the likes of RiceGum and Jake Paul.

Services like Twitch and YouTube's live streaming sector have clearly benefited from the precedent that YouTubers like RiceGum and Quadeca have set. Some of the most influential online faces are now regularly interconnected with musical artists and celebrities that were previously perceived as untouchable for a seemingly trivial occupation. Twitch streamer Kai Cenat has surrounded himself with musical culture, producing some of his own, in order to develop relationships with hip-hop figureheads like Lil Baby and 21 Savage. As those who were once solely viewed as online entities communicate further with cultures outside of the internet, the opportunities for cultivating such a career have become limitless. The descriptive phrase of being "chronically online" will continue to have its originally derogatory connotation blurred as this approach becomes increasingly integral to how virtual celebrities reap the benefits of the real world.

November 17, 2022

Rebooted or recycled: Overwatch 2

by Jason Le '23
STAFF WRITER

Released in 2016, Blizzard's Overwatch made headlines as the newest multiplayer first-person shooter game to be released with game modes and a class system similar to Valve's Team Fortress 2. After years of adding new characters to the roster, game modes and various cosmetics, Overwatch has finally shut down to make room for its successor, Overwatch 2. Don't worry, your favorite heroes aren't going anywhere. However, Overwatch 2 is not fun and games, but rather a borderline disaster beyond Blizzard's imagination.

Compared to the original Overwatch, Overwatch 2 experienced a few significant changes. Asides from the graphical overhaul, Blizzard has added new maps, taking us to locations such as New York City, Toronto and Rome, just to name a few. However, some fan-favorite maps such as the Temple of Anubis, Hanamura and Horizon Lunar Colony had been disabled due to bugs. Additionally, Blizzard added a new game mode called "Push" in which opposing teams attempt to fight for control of a robot and to push it furthest down their side of the map. Blizzard has also opted to remove 6v6 teams, removing one tank from each team to make it a 5v5 composition. The biggest change of all, however, was Blizzard's decision to make Overwatch 2 free-to-play.

Although a lot of Blizzard's changes were not received well by the community, the free-to-play model has led to the most controversy. The free-to-play model has caused Blizzard to implement a Battle Pass system into the game, similar to games like Fortnite and Fall Guys. The Battle Pass system replaces the Loot Box system that allowed players to play and earn experience points to get a free loot box. In these loot boxes, players had an equal chance to win various cosmetics without having to spend money. With the Battle Pass system, players would need to spend $10 to upgrade to a premium Battle Pass necessary to unlock new skins and in-game currency to buy more skins. The free version of the Battle Pass does not have many cosmetics unlocks. Thankfully, the free version of the Battle Pass contains hero unlocks, allowing players to grind through the tiers to unlock a new hero. If one did not want to participate in the Battle Pass model, players would be able to purchase skins using real currency. However, the prices for these skins are ridiculously expensive, ranging from $10 to $20.

The good news is, veteran Overwatch players who had bought the original game are allowed to transfer their account data over to Overwatch 2, allowing them to keep their cosmetics and have their favorite heroes already unlocked and ready to play. Additionally, the new hero, Kiriko, is unlocked and ready to play for veteran players. New players, unfortunately, must grind their way through games to unlock the original Overwatch character roster.

Other than from the major changes in Overwatch 2, the launch of the game was thought of by many fans to be an absolute disaster. When the game launched on Oct. 4, 2022, Blizzard's servers experienced a mass DDoS attack, shutting them down and causing extremely long loading times. Players were stuck waiting in the queue for over an hour, and even then, games would abruptly crash and go on random maintenance. Some characters were bugged and had to be disabled, and some characters were too overpowered, making a balanced match too difficult to attain, locking the entire character roster for veteran players and making it impossible for players to have a remotely enjoyable game. Over the next month, Blizzard would repair these bugs only for a new one to appear right after. Despite the messy launch and new pay-to-win model, the classic Overwatch players have grown to love is still here and present in Overwatch 2. With the original character roster, familiar maps and gamemodes and the cooperative experience, Overwatch 2 is still a very enjoyable experience if you had fun with the original. Although there are still many bugs in the game, Overwatch 2 has nonetheless made me remember why I liked the original Overwatch to begin with. Overwatch 2 is now available on PC through Battle.net, PlayStation 5 and on the Xbox Series X. Console players will now be able to play with PC players through cross-platform.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NINTENDO

Overwatch 2 is the 2022 successor to its widely acclaimed previous release in 2016.

November 17, 2022

Conformity and consumerism: the problems with following aesthetics

by Sydney Piccoli '26
STAFF WRITER

Granola, grunge, light academia—I bet that with each of these words, a slew of correlated images comes to mind. When you think of granola, I bet you envision Blundstones, Chacos, Birkenstocks, a Nalgene water bottle, flat-brim hats and van life. Was I close? When you think of grunge, do you picture heavy eyeliner, baggy clothing and shaggy hair? Most definitely. Does light academia prompt images of trench coats, neutral colors and patterns of tweed and argyle? I am willing to say so. Although we are no strangers to aesthetics, have we internalized them so much as to become immune to individualism? Or, are aesthetics simply more specific ways to identify oneself based on behavior, attitude and self-presentation—no different than writer, sister or athlete?

It is important to note that aesthetics are not inherently bad. Aesthetics first emerged as a way to describe one's personality and behavior, while offering room for the expansion of pre-existing interests. The granola aesthetic, for example, has flooded social media platforms like TikTok and Instagram and become a convenient hashtag for individuals passionate about spontaneous adventure and the outdoors to seek like-minded individuals. Similarly, if a person enjoys wearing Blundstones, then based on the granola aesthetic one might recommend Birkenstocks. Now, a person has not one, but two solid pairs of shoes. A rather simple example, but it is generally understandable that aesthetics can be perceived as an abbreviated mechanism to expand one's identity; however, aesthetics come with downsides.

Recently, aesthetics emerged as a mechanism to project highly-curated images of oneself to the world. This is concerning as people are already predisposed to a lack of authenticity. Although aesthetics can be sources of inspiration, more times than not they are used as "catch-all" descriptions for how one should behave, dress and express themselves, exhibiting toxic undertones.

People enjoying particular brands or activities, especially with those that are similar, is not an inherently bad thing. It becomes alarming, however, when they start to shift their identities to fit inside a pre-packaged box. If, for example, a person has been fitting the light academia aesthetic for a few months now but then decides one day to dress more Y2K, they might feel as though the bright colors and graphic tees clash with their pre-established personal brand. There is irony in the thought that humans, as complex as we are, can be boiled down to just a few words. When one propels aesthetic culture forward, they often do so through a conformist lens that inhibits their own individualism, as well as that of others.

Here is an interesting experiment: take out your phone, laptop or whatever the kids are using these days. Do three separate Google searches: granola, grunge and light academia. What do you notice? All the people depicted in the images are slim-figured, white and typically blonde or brunette. The refusal to depict POC individuals as well as varied body shapes and sizes in discussions of aesthetics, once again, epitomizes our conformist society. Instead of talking about what shirt one should wear, aesthetic culture now stigmatizes fixed identities, which perpetuates oppression and inequality.

Aesthetics also exacerbate fast fashion and American consumerism. Stores like Shein, H&M and Forever 21 hinge on a capitalistic model where they put merchandise exemplifying trendy aesthetics in their stores almost as fast as they remove them. If, for example, you go on Shein, there is a section titled "Shop by Style," which lists Y2K, Preppy and Punk as aesthetics. In a month, the same section might read Cottagecore, Grandmacore and Boho. One can essentially choose an aesthetic for the month, buy all the clothing that fits in with the aesthetic for the time being, and then the fad will eventually diminish. The clothing they had previously acquired will push deeper into their drawers until it is just a distant memory. By comparison, slow fashion companies, like Lucy & Yak or Girlfriend Collective, offer clothing with timeless patterns, colors and fabrics that are not rooted in aesthetics. With all aesthetics, there also comes a point where people reach their peak. They have all the things, they behave the right way and they do it all, but with this reality comes an excessive amount of waste from things one simply does not need.

Despite first emerging as compact descriptors, aesthetics have since molded into tools that force homogeneity and pose dangerous environmental consequences. Although I do not foresee aesthetics going anywhere anytime soon, it is important to remember that as much as one aesthetic might seem appealing or most desirable it is unreasonable and unattainable to put yourself into one box.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BONJOUR BECKY

The granola aesthetic requires adherents to purchase a set of items to match their desired look.

November 17, 2022

Decoding her future: Why don't women enter the computer science field?

by Aparna Patnaik '23
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This article was originally submitted for a course and includes references in addition to the parenthetical citations included. Please see spec.hamilton.edu for the full works cited.

When Florenda Lee's friend asked for advice on what she should major in, Lee recommended computer science. Her friend immediately responded, "There's absolutely no way I could major in computer science; I've never considered it. I'm sure I can't program; It's not for me." Lee was intrigued by the response, but not surprised (Lee, 2019). This mindset about women not being suited for computer science is all too familiar.

Currently, the demand for computer scientists is greater than its supply. Only 20% of computer science degrees go to women (Cheryan et al., 2015). Computer science is a high-status profession that pays well, has flexible work hours and offers plenty of other benefits. Given all these enticing factors, why don't more women pursue this profession?

From a young age, girls' and boys' interests are influenced by stereotypes. When people think of computer scientists, they often think of "geeky" socially awkward guys who love technology (Cheryan et al., 2015). Allison Master, a Professor of Psychology at the University of Houston and her colleagues studied the existence of gender-interest stereotypes and how that influences academic motivation among girls. Gender stereotypes about interests start early and cause gender disparities in computer science and engineering according to a 2021 study from the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America.* Two studies reveal that girls, as young as six years old, endorse gender-interest stereotypes favoring boys in computer science. These negative stereotypes surrounding computer scientists create negative stereotypes about girls' computer science abilities which hinders their interest and performance in the field (Cheryan et al., 2015). A third study shows that the presence of these stereotypes causes girls to have lower interest in stereotyped activities, particularly ones that increase stereotype threats among girls. Lastly, a fourth study demonstrates that gender-interest stereotypes favoring boys cause gender disparities in motivation for computer science activities by reducing girls' interest. These stereotypes are so powerful due to a reduced sense of belonging in computer science classes and activities.

Even when girls choose to pursue computer science, their physical environment can impact whether or not they choose to continue pursuing this interest (Master et al., 2016). Allison Master, a Professor of Psychology at the University of Houston, and Andrew N. Meltzoff, a Professor of Psychology at University of Washington analyzed the influence a stereotypical versus non-stereotypical physical classroom environment has on high-school girls' interest in joining an introductory computer science class and their sense of belongingness in the classroom environment, according to "Computing whether she belongs: Stereotypes undermine girls' interest and sense of belonging in computer science," 2016 *Journal of Educational Psychology*. The environment simply differed with objects present, as the stereotypical classroom had "Star Wars/Star Trek items, electronics, software, tech magazines, and computer books" and the non-stereotypical classroom had "nature pictures, art pictures, and general magazines" (Master et al., 2016). Both of the studies revealed that girls' are more likely to join an introductory computer science class when learning in a non-stereotypical environment compared to a stereotypical environment. Simple changes to create a greater sense of belongingness impacts girls' willingness to pursue computer science.

This stereotype threat is not only reinforced in academic settings, but also through media. Shows such as *Silicon Valley* depict computer scientists in a very stereotypical manner (Cheryan et al. 2015). In order to see the impact of media, Sapna Cheryan, a Professor of Psychology at the University of Washington, and her colleagues had a group of women read a newspaper article that described computer scientists very stereotypically and another group of women read an article that represented computer scientists non-stereotypically, according to "the stereotypical computer scientist: Gendered media representations as a barrier to inclusion for women," 2013 *Sex Roles: A Journal of Research.*" Women who read the stereotypical article were less interested in exploring computer science than women who read the stereotypical article. Media constantly surrounds society, hence what is portrayed in the media has a large impact on the decisions we make. Encouraging more women to enter the field of computer science must start at a young age. Over the past decade, dozens of organizations have started with the purpose to get girls interested in computer science starting as early as the 1st grade.

PHOTO/GRAPHIC COURTESY OF NPR AND LA JOHNSON

When Reshma Saujani was campaigning for public office in New York, she noticed a stark gender gap in computer science classes, which she noticed started at a young age. Boys were applauded for taking risks and being brave in entering the computer science field, but girls were encouraged to strive for perfection. This led Saujani to start Girls Who Code, a non-profit organization that strives to teach computer science to girls in a comfortable environment where they are encouraged to take risks (Gupta, 2019).

Saujani's initiative is simply the start to increasing girls' interest and making them feel a sense of belongingness in the field of computer science. These initiatives need to follow through to college and into the professional setting. Maria Klawe, Harvey Mudd's president, led the initiative to restructure the computer science department by emphasizing the intellectual depth and connections to other disciplines computer science can have in hopes to connect more women and break the stereotypes (Hafner, 2012). Saujani and Klawe, along with many others, hope that as a society, these efforts to further diversify the field will change the mind of people like Florenda Lee's friend.

Spec Favorites

TV Edition

White Lotus

Fleabag

The Big Lez Show

The Bear

Peaky Blinders

Derry Girls

Dark

Friday Night Lights

Silicon Valley

By Surya Gowda '23, Managing Editor

Hamilton Continentals fall sports roundup

by Owen Lewis '24 and Chris Harrison '23
SPORTS EDITORS

Men's basketball

Men's basketball won their season opener convincingly, demolishing SUNY Old Westbury 107-59 at home. Hamilton scored 14 of the first 15 points and never looked back from there, expanding the lead to 56-28 by halftime. Garret Keyhani '26 scored a team-high 22 points on the day, Hank Morgan '25 following closely with 21. With the rest of the season ahead, the Continentals started on a good note.

Women's cross country

On Nov. 12, the women's cross country team placed an impressive fifth of 24 teams at the NCAA Regional Championship in Rochester. Clara Fu '26 led the team over the six-kilometer course in 22:51.7, finishing 10th overall. Fellow first-year Taylor Harris '26 followed in 14th place, clocking a time of 22:56. Both Fu and Harris earned all-region recognition by finishing in the top 35 at the meet, qualifying to compete at the Division III Women's Niagara Regional Cross Country Championship on Nov. 19.

Men's cross country

The men's team also finished fifth out of 24 teams at the regional championship. George Brady '23 rounded out the top five overall, leading the team with a time of 25:23.9 over eight kilometers. Andrew Harrell '23 placed tenth with a 25:39.6, joining Brady in qualifying for the Men's Cross Country Championship at Michigan State on Nov. 19. Brady and Harrell, both seniors, will complete their collegiate careers at the prestigious meet.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Garret Keyhani '26 scored 22 points in Hamilton's emphatic win over SUNY Old Westbury.

Women's volleyball

Kate Carman '24 landed a spot on the all-region volleyball team for a second straight year. She will be one of 20 athletes to earn the honor from Region One. Carman was a standout for the Continentals who finished with an 8-11 record, and 3-7 in-conference. Carman, along with other standout juniors, Summer McClintic '24 and Kate Chiara Morley-McLaughlin '24 will look to build on this season next fall.

Women's basketball

Women's basketball has had a fantastic start to the season, racking up wins against Swarthmore and Vassar. The season opener against Swarthmore was tight, with the teams being separated by just one point at the onset of the fourth quarter, but the Continentals locked down to produce a 62-57 win. Emma Sehring '23 was instrumental in the win, logging 16 points and 11 rebounds. Sehring scored 16 again in the team's 71-60 win over Vassar. Althea Hill '26 scored 15, and Emily Hall '24, who scored 14, was named to the all-tournament team. Sehring, who was named the tournament MVP, was also voted as the NESCAC women's basketball player of the week for her elite performances in both wins. With 0-3 Hartwick College next on the schedule, the team looks to continue their unbeaten run.

Football

The football team lost their final game of the season, 19-14, to Bates at home on Nov. 12. The team's overall record this season was 2-7. The Continentals led 7-0 and 14-6, but fell to a late Bates comeback. Quarterback Matt Banbury '23, in the last game of his collegiate career, ran for a touchdown and threw a touchdown pass to Mark Howrigan '24. The latter touchdown came after a nine-play, 80-yard drive across the field. Bates proved too strong in the closing stages, however, and finished the season with a 3-6 record.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Clara Fu '26 is impressing in her first season on the team, earning all-region recognition after a 22:51.7 time in the 6K. She placed 10th in the meet.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Emma Sehring '23 scored 32 points across the team's first two games this season—both wins.

Evaluating the USA World Cup Soccer Team

by Matthew Collins '24
OPINION EDITOR

PHOTO BY ESPN.COM

The 2022 FIFA World Cup starts this week.

Overview

Yeah, I have a lot to say about the state of U.S. soccer. Strap in. While a glance at their results may not directly convey it, the United States' men's soccer program has improved by leaps and bounds in the past decade. The accession of Jürgen Klinsmann to the senior side's managerial post in 2011 ushered in a new era: he and then-United States Soccer Federation president Sunil Gulati aggressively pursued a recruitment strategy for dual nationals, he introduced modern dieting and training regimens to the team's preparations and he actively encouraged the brightest American talents to transfer abroad in search of greater challenges on the pitch. Klinsmann could be tactically questionable at times, leading to his departure from the side in 2016 with qualification for the following World Cup in two years' time in doubt, but the cultural sea change he introduced continues to influence the upward trajectory of American soccer to this day.

Klinsmann's successor Bruce Arena had delivered the U.S. squad to the quarterfinals of the World Cup in 2002, but his experienced hands oversaw a regression instead of a quick fix. Team selection policy traveled back to the proverbial dark ages, favoring domestic players over more capable ones playing abroad. The team promptly crashed out unceremoniously under Arena's stewardship, reminding them that World Cup qualification was not a birthright.

Four years on from that embarrassment, the United States has improved tremendously. Its domestic league, Major League Soccer (MLS), has evolved from a retirement spot for washed-up stars to a development-focused league full of hungry young stars in the making, and there are Americans finding regular game time at some of the traditional powerhouses of European soccer. New manager Gregg Berhalter has picked up where Klinsmann left off in many regards, generally continuing to reward ambition and good form in his squads, recently leading the U.S. to multiple critical victories over archrivals Mexico. However, there are still a number of notable deficiencies in the current squad—center-back and center-forward chief among them—and Berhalter's refusal to call up arguably the strongest options in those positions available to him, especially while sticking to underperforming favorites, has generated no small degree of pessimism surrounding what remains an undeniably talented squad.

The Squad

The U.S. squad is already one of the more controversial teams submitted for the World Cup. Plenty of Berhalter's selections are solid, but some of his decisions are either predictably disappointing or truly bizarre. A few boggle the mind.

Arsenal's backup goalkeeper Matt Turner looks set to stand between the sticks in Qatar, with no sign of former number-one keeper Zack Steffen in the squad. Turner has more than earned his place as the American number-one, but he and his backups remain comparatively untested in competitive play. Veteran Tim Ream is in the form of his life, with the 35-year-old headed to his first World Cup after playing his way into contention with Premier League side Fulham. He has not played any significant minutes with anyone else in the defense except left-back and club teammate Antonee Robinson. Whether Ream will gel with any of his fellow center-backs is up for debate; the continued absence of John Brooks in the lineup is beyond peculiar, particularly when enthusiastic but out-of-form Aaron Long continues to be a regular squad presence (although the emergence of Celtic stalwart Cameron Carter-Vickers has strengthened the American defense of late). While Shaq Moore is a serviceable defensive right-back on his day, the absence of other, more established candidates such as Reggie Cannon makes his inclusion a considerable surprise. Sergiño Dest and DeAndre Yedlin will likely dominate playing time along the right flank, with the former possessing considerable attacking prowess and the latter the only holdout from the 2014 World Cup squad.

The American midfield is roughly by-the-numbers according to Berhalter's predilections, with more established starters playing in the top European leagues such as Weston McKennie alongside domestic backups Kellyn Acosta and Cristian Roldan. Youthful Leeds United duo Tyler Adams and Brenden Aaronson will inject much-needed energy between both the defensive and attacking lines. Most promising of all is Yunus Musah; the midfield prodigy, who turns 20 on the U.S.'s final group game against Iran, and possesses both excellent passing vision and ball-carrying adroitness that will be instrumental in breaking the presses of opposition.

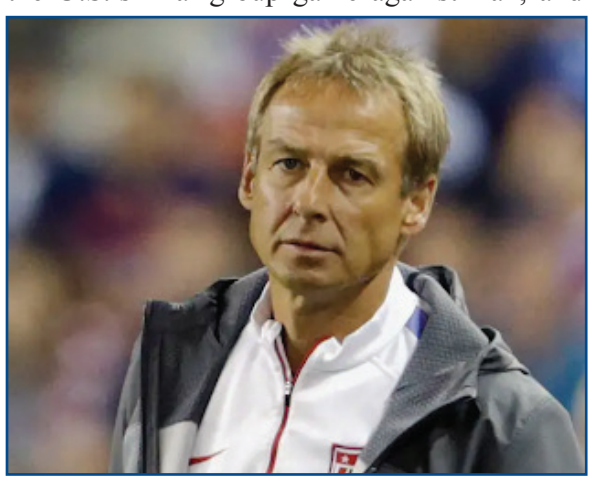


PHOTO BY ADAM HUNGER/GETTY

Coach Jürgen Klinsmann has made some controversial picks for the 2022 World Cup squad.

Goal-scoring remains the U.S.'s Achilles heel, with a hodgepodge combination of talented attackers proficient in every area except finding the back of the net. Christian Pulisic and Giovanni Reyna are likely the two most naturally gifted players in the squad alongside Musah; the former, the American side's talisman, has struggled for time and form at Chelsea, whereas the latter's progress has been severely hampered by injury. Tim Weah provides a serious creative threat from wide, but is hardly clinical himself. Josh Sargent is in excellent form, but is yet to demonstrate his abilities can carry over to the highest levels of the game, whereas the U.S.'s best, Jordan Pefok, and most promising, Ricardo Pepi, forwards have mystifyingly been passed over in favor of talented but mercurial Jesús Ferreira, highly inconsistent backup Jordan Morris and relatively unknown entity Haji Wright.

Prediction

Berhalter will emerge from this tournament with either significant praise or calls for his head, and while other managers in the tournament have made some peculiar selection decisions, few have come out of nowhere as his. There is talent to spare in the American squad, but their defensive fragility and lack of clinicality could very well be its undoing in the tight margins of the World Cup. The U.S. could easily make the knockout stages or fall flat on its face; personally, I think the Welsh have the slimmest of advantages due to the excess of big-game players spread throughout their team. Turner and McKennie have both shown an exciting tendency to rise to the occasion in the past, but the team's unconvincing depth in certain key areas of the squad (particularly at center-back and center-forward) leads me to believe that the U.S. are most likely, by a hair, to fall just short. Should they make it through to the knockout stage, however, the team's considerable cohesion gives them a more favorable chance—if still an uphill battle—to make it to the quarterfinals than the Welsh.

Examining the rest of the U.S.A.'s group at the 2022 World Cup

by Matthew Collins '24
OPINION EDITOR

PHOTO COURTESY OF ARSENAL.COM

Arsenal's Bukayo Saka has slowly but surely become one of the most threatening wingers in the world. In the face of disappointment at last year's Euros, his continued rise is meteoric.

England: Overview

"*Three Lions on a shirt / Jules Rimet still gleaming / thirty years of hurt / never stopped me dreaming.*"

These lines form the pre-chorus of Baddiel, Skinner & The Lightning Seeds' "Three Lions," the unofficial rallying cry for English fans since the song's recording in anticipation of Euro 96. Such is the rabid, totemic place it holds in the hearts of English fans that it has become possibly the most (in)famous recorded anthem in the game of soccer. Of course, their lone World Cup win coming in 1966 means that it has been much longer than thirty years now since the English men's side lifted international honors, but the sentiments captured in "Three Lions" have only strengthened with time. The English, having more or less invented soccer, consider it a matter of vital importance that they reestablish their name in the history books and reconquer their most successful cultural export. It helps that most of the country is absolutely mad for the sport. Every country wants to win a World Cup, but few countries ache for it the way England does.

England: The Squad

Every England team has a considerable amount of hype behind it, but fans have particularly high hopes for the squad that manager Gareth Southgate has selected for this year's tournament. Much of this excitement is rooted in the team's last two performances at major tournaments, a semifinals appearance at the 2018 World Cup and an agonizing loss on penalties in the Euro 2020 finals. These contests nevertheless remain England's best showings in two consecutive tournaments since they were quite literally on top of the world, and with dazzling young talent at the heart of this side, they are likely to improve considerably as the decade progresses.

The star of this English side is talismanic center-forward Harry Kane, the brightest light of the English game and his dometic club team Tottenham Hotspur for much of the last decade. Kane's instincts in front of goal are remarkable, as is his penchant for dropping into midfield and launching attacks with pinpoint accuracy via immaculately floated through-balls. He lies on the cusp of Wayne Rooney's all-time goalscoring record in an England shirt, and chances are significant that he seizes that record for himself in Qatar. Kane's primary partner-in-crime across this stint in the national side has been prolific winger Raheem Sterling, England's go-to man when the going gets tough. Even when his club form has vacillated from scintillating to shocking, Sterling has continually shown up with the goods for the Three Lions when the chips are down. Now Kane and Sterling's reinforcements lie at the head of England's youth revolution, whose three crown jewels are Phil Foden, Bukayo Saka and Jude Bellingham.

Foden is an obscenely talented player capable of performing in most forward and midfield roles, although he has shone brightest while playing out on the left. His ball control is astonishing and his overall technique remarkable; combined with a hunger for scoring and a developing ability to grab games by the scruff of the neck, Foden has become one of the world's most dangerous left-wingers. Saka struck the final fateful penalty against Italy at Euro 2020 while still a teenager, but while such experiences have destroyed the careers of more established players, the greatest hope of Premier League table-toppers Arsenal has instead blossomed into one of the premier right-wingers on the planet. Every year, he seems to turn his greatest deficiency into a strength, improving his strength, shooting and weak foot to the point of achieving a completeness most players can only dream of. Saka can do almost anything in the final to a high level now, as well as quite a bit further back; the sight of him running at fullbacks is absolutely terrifying. Bellingham is only 19, but has already established himself as England's most complete central midfielder. He often wears the number 22 on the advice of a former youth coach, symbolizing that he can play in defensive (number four), balanced (number eight) and offensive (number 10) roles equally well. His exploits for German side Borussia Dortmund include bossing players a decade his senior, scoring for fun in Europe's most prestigious continental club competition (the Champions League) and embarrassing world-class opposite numbers. It is no wonder that he has become a nailed-on starter for England.

The rest of the England squad is also strong, although not perhaps as precocious as these three. Defensive midfielder Declan Rice is one of the world's best at shielding back lines; his unusual tendency to carry the ball forward offers unpredictability in attack that can catch opposing sides off guard. While Reece James will miss the World Cup due to injury and Kyle Walker faces a race to be fit in time for the first match, England's depth at right-back is still astonishing; Southgate still has the elite Trent Alexander-Arnold and Kieran Trippier available to him. Both are offensively dangerous, with Alexander-Arnold's game more centered around his world-class crossing abilities and Trippier's more well-rounded,

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARKUS GILLIAM

Jordan Pickford, seen here at Euro 2020, has developed a reputation for performing on the world's biggest stages. His international form has made him a near-guaranteed starter. Even when struggling for his club team, he remains consistent for England.

and Saka's Arsenal teammate Ben White has also played his way into the squad as a more defensive option. While Fikayo Tomori, fresh off a league victory with Italian giants AC Milan, has controversially missed out on a place in the squad, John Stones remains a gifted marshal of the England defense. His controversial partner at center-back Harry Maguire has also looked good in an England shirt despite unconvincing club form for domestic side Manchester United. Even if opposing attackers find themselves through on goal, Jordan Pickford has long been an imposing presence in the England net, capable of thwarting offensives left and right. While his club form has been shaky until recently, Pickford has always been an absolute animal for England, coming up with clutch saves time and again when the team needs him most.

In summation: this is a damn good squad, better and more complete than any to compete for England in a while. The scariest part is that they will only get better.

England: Prediction

I am not going to do an in-depth analysis of England's chances in the way that I have for the other teams. For the English, anything short of victory in the World Cup represents abject failure, regardless of squad quality or strength of opposition; arguing what constitutes a respectable showing for them is therefore useless. The only question worth asking about the England squad, then, is this: can they win the World Cup?

In one sense, yes. In terms of raw talent, this England side is positively overflowing with skill and potential. They have the most purely gifted side in the tournament short of Brazil, and if the French struggle in the group stag es (which history and current rumors suggest they might), then England has a relatively smooth run to the semifinals, much like in 2018.

On the other hand, *this is England*. They always have found a way to lose. They have always managed to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory, punctuated by excruciating misses, 'phantom goals,' petulant red cards and the eventual letdown, often found at the mercy of the penalty shootout.

At times, there seems to be a mental block developed in English players. Such is the relentless pressure from fans and (particularly) the press that their historical tendency to choke under pressure is decidedly unsurprising. Despite the vast number of players across soccer's history who have faltered in decisive moments for their countries, there is one nation that has suffered more due to players losing their heads than any other. Self-destruction on the pitch, either on one's own or collectively, often seems almost quintessentially English. They are just as likely to fall at the hands of their more frequent tor-mentors —Germany and Argentina in particular—as they are to unfancied opposition.

One of the most striking features of 'Three Lions' is that it is, at its core, a deeply pessimistic song. The great anthem of the oldest, proudest footballing nation in the world centers around the notion that "*everyone seems to know the score, they've seen it all before / they just know, they're so sure / that England's gonna throw it away, gonna blow it away.*" Misery is the norm for the English soccer fan, a perpetual state of misanthropic despair surrounding their national team, and even the victory of the English women's team at this year's Euros can only do so much to salve that pain.

Speaking in strictly footballing terms, England will do very well for themselves this World Cup, and it is not out of the question that they could go all the way. Historically and psychologically speaking, however, England will crash out in the most painful way possible, thus preserving an entire nation in agonizing bondage for just a little while longer. England will lose on penalties to the Germans in the semifinals. It is written in the stars.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FOOTBALLJOE ON TWITTER, TAKEN OF FOOTAGE BELONGING TO SKY SPORTS

Legendary manager José Mourinho has been the source for many memorable quotes, but none describe England's continued failures on the international stage quite like this one.

Predicted Finish	Team
1st	England
2nd	Wales
3rd	United States
4th	Iran

Iran: Overview

Iran is historically one of Asia's stronger teams, arguably the strongest outside of East Asia in international play. Among their greatest players are Ali Daei, long-time record-holder for most international goals scored in the men's game, skillful attacker Ali Karimi and workhorse right-back Mehdi Mahdavikia. All three of these players performed in the Bundesliga, the highest leagues in Germany, with aplomb; Iran's recent pedigree is thus sizable in spite of their lack of performances on the world stage. Armed once more with a deadly attacking outfit, Team Merri certainly has plans of playing spoiler and qualifying for the knockout stages.

Iran: The Squad

Much of the quality in this Iranian side is devoted to scoring goals by the bucketload. Winger Alireza Jahanbakhsh can be extremely dangerous when cutting in from the left-hand side, and Sardar Azmoun's prolific goalscoring record for the national team testifies to his diverse set of skills: a peculiar combination of poacher's instincts, fleet footwork and aerial prowess. Perhaps the most terrifying of all these threats is Mehdi Taremi. A late bloomer whose big break in Europe came three years ago at the age of 27, Taremi has become (in my opinion) the best player competing in Portugal, bar none. His movement, linkup play and predatory instinct in the 18-yard box are all elite, simultaneously making the Iranian attack difficult to isolate and even keener. Even teams somehow manage to keep all three of these players quiet, seasoned backup Karim Ansarifard sure as hell knows where the net is too.

Other than that, there are few truly notable players on the Iranian team. Sadegh Moharrami is more than capable of putting in a decent shift at right-back; the same goes for his counterpart on the opposite flank Milad Mohammadi, most famous for his failed attempt at a cheeky trick thrown-in at the previous World Cup.

Iran: Prediction

Iran may be the weakest team in Group B on paper, but do not be fooled: they can still throw some serious weight around in tight matches. A surge into second place is not out of the question, and even if they fail to make it out of the group stage, they still have a decent chance of deciding which other side does, such is the fearsomeness of their attack. Even a momentary slip from the English, American or Welsh defenses could allow Azmoun or Taremi to play spoiler.

PHOTO COURTESY OF REUTERS/PEDRO NUNES

Mehdi Taremi has lit up the Portuguese domestic league and European club competitions alike with his goalscoring instincts and capability to link midfield and attack.

Wales: Overview

The last time Wales played in a World Cup was 1958. Their star player was the 'Gentle Giant' John Charles—notable for his remarkable proficiency at both center-forward and center-back, an exceedingly rare combination of talents both then and now. Pelé, the wunderkind who would establish himself as one of the world's best players at the tournament, was merely seventeen. Suffice to say times were different back then.

The fifty-eight years between then and now have seen Wales produce their fair share of world-class players—Ian Rush, Neville Southall and Ryan Giggs have all lit up the top tier of the English game in the meantime—but success at the national level has remained elusive. Now, helmed by an aging Gareth Bale—arguably the greatest player of all to wear the Wales jersey—The Dragons have an incredibly rare shot at glory on the biggest stage of all.

Wales: The Squad

Bale is a walking legend of the game, in spite of his infamous antics during the latter stages of his enormously successful spell at Real Madrid. Age has slightly dulled his once-fearsome agility, but he still possesses blazing pace, dazzling technical ability, deceptive strength and a ferocious shot. He is also a tremendously clutch player, capable of showing up out of nowhere and seizing a game by the horns to save whatever side he is on at the time. Bale is currently plying his trade in the MLS for Los Angeles FC, a far cry from the massive stages he regularly lit up for much of the past decade, but even in the twilight of his career, he can still snatch a result from the jaws of defeat.

A number of key players of Wales' 2016 run to the semifinals of the European Championships join him. Aaron Ramsey's torrid time playing in Italy in Juventus has

PHOTO COURTESY OF GOAL.COM

Despite no longer playing in a top league, Gareth Bale remains an unpredictable foe and a serious threat to any defense looking to keep Wales quiet at this World Cup. Bale has been a serial winner ever since his 2013 move to Real Madrid.

ended his career at the top level, but he is still liable to score a few from midfield alongside longtime partner-in-crime Joe Allen. Nicknamed 'Rambo' and the 'Welsh Pirlo' after the action movie character and Italian midfield maestro respectively, the duo are still more than capable of setting the team's tempo in the center of the field. Record Welsh appearance-holder Chris Gunter is a longtime fixture in the back line alongside Tottenham's versatile stalwart Ben Davies; it feels as though the latter has been around forever despite still being in his twenties. Promising center-back Joe Rodon found game time hard to come by as Davies' teammate at Spurs, but a loan spell in France has seen him recover his confidence at a crucial juncture.

However, if Wales is to progress, they will need their veterans' contributions to be matched by the squad's relative newcomers. Veteran Kieffer Moore has slogged through the highly demanding arena of semi-professional soccer in England's lower leagues, working his way up to the top by generally making himself a nuisance for whichever defense has to corral him, no matter the level. Now a dangerous goalscorer in the Premier League, his goals and positional play will be necessary to not only free up room for his teammates, but to inject some much-needed physicality into the Welsh attacking third. Moore's Bournemouth side have already come out on top against Nottingham Forest this season, whose right flank will also be playing important roles for Wales; Neco Williams is an adroit right-back full of attacking prowess, and Brennan Johnson seems more and more like the next young attacking star to light up the wings. Johnson in particular will be crucial to providing added edge to a Welsh attack that hardly lit up qualifying.

Wales: Prediction

Despite their star players' aging, Wales remain a more than capable side on their day; even though they come into the World Cup in poor form, the same can be said for the other sides in Group B. When the margins are this close, any side can qualify with a clutch performance or two and a dash of luck. The U.S. probably has a more well-balanced squad than Wales and Iran's fierce attack can cause them serious problems; nevertheless, I predict that the Dragons will squeeze through into the knockout stages. It can be clichė to speak of one or two players making the difference in an 11-on-11 sport, but the x-factors of Moore, Johnson and especially Bale could very well work magic in the fine margins of the group stage. Beyond that, though, the Welsh team lacks the all-around quality to push any further into the knockout rounds.

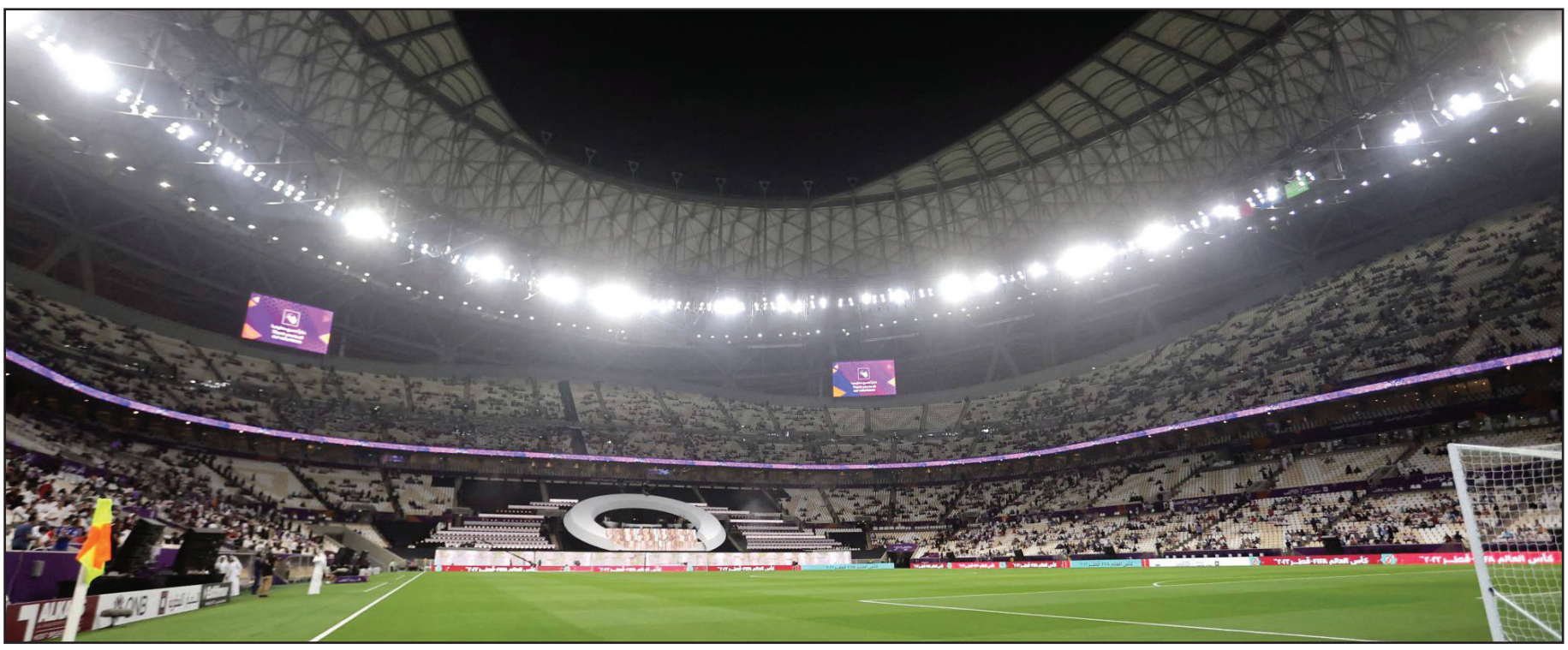


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JAPAN TIMES/REUTERS

There is still something surreal about the World Cup occurring in Qatar. The numerous human rights abuses that occurred in the construction of the Lusail Iconic Stadium serve as a sobering reminder that soccer, as important as it is to many around the world, is not worth human lives.